₩ocket No.: AMB-02131-02

hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage at First Class Mail in an envelope addressed to the Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on the date indicated below

Date: December 24, 2003

STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

10/728,384

Applicant

Andreas Ebbecke

Filed

December 5, 2003

Art Unit

to be assigned

Examiner

to be assigned

Docket No.

AMB-02131-02

Customer No. :

24131

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Hon. Commissioner for Patents

Sir:

In accordance with 37 C.F.R. 1.98 copies of the following patents and/or publications are submitted herewith:

German translation DE 698 02 293 T2 (Girkin, et al.), dated June 14, 2000, of European Patent EP 1 007 993 B1 and corresponding International Publication WO 98/36295, dated August 20, 1998;

German translation DE 695 12 347 T2 (Takahashi), dated May 15, 1996, and corresponding European Patent EP 0 712 014 B1, dated May 15, 1996.

Respectfully submitted.

Gregory L. Mayback

policant Reg. No. 40,719 December 24, 2003

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